Message Text

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2.1

ACTION SIL-01

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 NEA-10 IO-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 L-03

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /087 W ----- 054033

R 280449Z FEB 76 FM AMEMBASSY MANILA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2537 INFO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI AMEMBASSY TOKYO US MISSION GENEVA 451

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E O 11652: N/A

TAGS: ORIT, ELAB, RP

SUBJ: WFTU VISIT TO MANILA

REF: MANILA 2640

- 1. WFTU SECRETARY GENERAL PIERRE GENSOUS DEPARTED MANILA FEB. 26 AFTER 3-DAY VISIT. BEFORE DEPARTING, HE HELD PRESS CONFERENCE, WE HAVE SEEN NO MENTION OF EITHER VISIT OR PRESS CONFERENCE IN LOCAL PRESS YET.
- 2. ACCORDING AP STORY, GENSOUS STATED WFTU BACKED FILIPINO LABOR DEMANDS FOR GREATER RIGHT TO STRIKE UNDER MARTIAL LAW. HE SAID HE PREFERRED THAT GOP AND LABOR WORK OUT THEIR PROBLEMS BY NEGOTIATIONS, AND ASSERTED WFTU REFUSED TO INTERFERE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF A FOREIGN TRADE UNION. IN CLOSING, GENSOUS CLAIMED WFTU AND TUCP HAD AGREED EXCHANGE INFORMATION AND OPINIONS ON LABOR ISSUES, TO MEET REGUARLY, AND TO ATTEND EACH OTHERS CONFERENCES. HOWEVER, HE ALSO STRESSED HE WOULD OFFER NO HELP TO PHILIPPINE LABOR THAT WOULD "EMBARRASS" TRADE UNION OFFICIALS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HERE.

3. COMMENT. GENSOUS' STATEMENT REGARDING FUTURE EXCHANGES APPEARS TO BE AN EXAGGERATED DESCRIPTION OF MORE VAGUE PLEDGES OF FRATERNAL CONTACTS. TUCP PRESIDENT BERT OCA TOLD AAFLI MANILA THAT WHILE GENSOUS HAD OFFERED WFTU ASSISTANCE FOR "ANYTHING" DURING MEETING WITH TUCP BOARD (REFTEL), TUCP HAD REPLIED THAT THEY DID NOT WISH TO RECEIVE ANY HELP AT ALL. ACCORDING OCA, GENSOUS WAS TOLD THAT FILIPINO LABOR DID NOT WISH TO JEOPARDIZE TRA-DITIONALLY CLOSE AND PRODUCTIVE TIES WITH ICFTU, AAFLI, AND FES (WEST GERMAN). GENSOUS WAS FURTHER TOLD THAT ANY FUTURE WFTU ACTIVITIES WOULD HAVE TO BE DONE THROUGH THEIR AFFILIATE NATU. BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE FOR GENEVA FEB. 27, TUCP SECRETARY GENERAL KITO MANDOZA TOLD LABATT HE CONFIDENT GENSOUS HAD GOTTEN THE MESSAGE THAT FILIPINO LABOR MOVEMENT NOT INTERESTED IN ANY SERIOUS TIES WITH WFTU.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: LABOR RELATIONS, PRESS CONFERENCES, VISITS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 28 FEB 1976 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MANII A02868

Document Number: 1976MANILA02868
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D760076-0020

From: MANILA

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t1976022/aaaaabhl.tel Line Count: 79 Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Office: ACTION SIL

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 76 MANILA 2640 Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: morefirh

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 11 MAY 2004

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a Review History: RELEASED <11 MAY 2004 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <07 JUL 2004 by morefirh>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MÁY 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: WFTU VISIT TO MANILA
TAGS: ELAB, RP, WFTU, TUCP, (GENSOUS, PIERRE)
To: STATE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006